

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 2, lines 3-10 (identified in the Office Action as page 1), please amend the first paragraph as follows:

- - The invention relates to a printing head for squirting out a hot liquid medium ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~, and to a process for the production of a connection point comprising metallic solder ~~according to the preamble of claim 33~~. The invention furthermore relates to the use of a printing head which works according to the ink-jet printing principle. - -

On page 3, lines 1-30 (identified in the Office Action as page 2), please amend the first paragraph as follows:

- - ~~This object is achieved by means of a printing head exhibiting the features of claim 1.~~  
The printing head according to the invention serves for squirting out a hot liquid medium. It has a medium chamber, one of whose walls is formed by a diaphragm. The diaphragm is in mechanical contact with an actuator, so that the diaphragm can be deflected or driven. The invention provides for the actuator to be thermally decoupled from the diaphragm. In other words, the actuator is technically isolated from the diaphragm in respect of heat and/or cold. This makes it possible for the hot liquid medium to be heated in liquid form in the medium chamber. In a particularly advantageous manner, this hot liquid metallic alloy can then be squirted out by the printing head according to the invention in order to apply so called solder deposits to substrates and/or components. By virtue of the fact that the actuator is thermally decoupled from the diaphragm, it can be kept at a working temperature at which its physical properties essentially do not change. In other words - although there may be very hot liquid

metal present in the medium chamber - the diaphragm can be driven or deflected very accurately and precisely by the actuator, thereby enabling very hot liquid media of all kinds, in particular highly heated liquid metals, to be squirted out precisely with an accurately defined drop size or volume.

On page 12, lines 19 to 32, please amend the specification as follows:

The object is also achieved by means of a process for the production of a connection point comprising metallic solder ~~which has the features Claim 33~~. The invention provides for the solder to be squirted as hot liquid solder onto the contact-making point of the connection point by means of an apparatus which works according to the ink-jet principle. According to the process of the invention, it is possible in a particularly simple manner to apply metallic solder to a contact-making point of a connection point which is provided for connection techniques or connection points in the field of microelectronics and microsystem technology or micromechanics.